

**To:** Simon, Verneta[simon.verneta@epa.gov]  
**From:** Kush, Beverly  
**Sent:** Fri 3/28/2014 6:42:43 PM  
**Subject:** FW: 271946Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update #5)

fyi

-----Original Message-----

**From:** El-Zein, Jason  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2014 1:36 PM  
**To:** Borries, Samuel; Karl, Richard; Ballotti, Doug; Beslow, Mike; Kush, Beverly; Clements, Mindy; Gebien, Charles  
**Subject:** FW: 271946Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update #5)

Updated quantity of oil spilled into Lake Michigan.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jerome.A.Popiel@uscg.mil [mailto:Jerome.A.Popiel@uscg.mil]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2014 9:58 AM  
**To:** El-Zein, Jason; mmichael@idem.in.gov; steve.lehmann@noaa.gov; VANOTTERENB@michigan.gov; D\_L\_Anderson@nps.gov; lindy\_nelson@ios.doi.gov  
**Cc:** Lee, Barbi  
**Subject:** 271946Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update #5)

All, yesterday's CG update with updated BP estimate of spilled product. Also received word via our SSC, LCDR Lomnický, that there are no listed NMFS species in the impacted area. Jerry

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Rice, Roger R CIV  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 3:49 PM  
**To:** D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Pol-Haz-Merch Vsl  
**Subject:** 271946Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update #5)

UPDATE #5: Due to inclement weather conditions an over flight was not conducted as planned today. A team from MSU Chicago continued cleanup and subsurface analysis today. An updated quantity of 15 to 39 barrels is estimated to be spilled into Lake Michigan.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Turenchalk, William CIV  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:12 PM  
**To:** D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Pol-Haz-Merch Vsl; D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Senior Staff  
**Subject:** 262210Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update #4)

UPDATE #4: Sector Lake Michigan reported that shoreline cleanup continued today with minimal additional cleanup required. Minor oil residue remains on the SE rock wall with scheduled cleanup tomorrow. The 2700' boom is anticipated to be removed tomorrow provided oil cleanups are successful; the 1000' boom will remain in place until a later time. Initial trenching was also conducted with no oil discovered; additional deeper trenching will be conducted tomorrow. BP and USCG Aux overflights were conducted and found no additional oil outside of the boom; an additional BP overflight will take place before sundown tonight. The previously unidentified dark patches outside of the containment boom were determined to not be pollution. The dark patches inside the boom remain unidentified (possibly vegetation) and will be identified with a camera tomorrow. An updated quantity of 9-18 barrels was spilled into Lake Michigan. The worst case scenario of 100 barrels stated in UPDATE #3 never spilled

into Lake Michigan and would have been contained within the facility. Final cleanups are expected to be completed by Friday. Case pends.

-----Original Message-----

From: Prebeck, Jeffrey M LT

Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 12:21 PM

To: D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Pol-Haz-Merch Vsl; D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Senior Staff

Subject: 261620Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update #3)

UPDATE #3: Sector Lake Michigan received notification that an unconfirmed updated estimate of 8-18 barrels entered into Lake Michigan with a worst case scenario of 100 barrels. A follow-up conference call will be conducted at 1600(lcl) between MSU Chicago and Sector Lake Michigan.

-----Original Message-----

From: Katsuki, Glenn F LT

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 9:31 PM

To: D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Pol-Haz-Merch Vsl; D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Senior Staff

Subject: 260130Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update# 2)

UPDATE# 2: Sector Lake Michigan reported that the source of the discharge has been confirmed. The oil originated from the facility's #12 crude unit and traveled into the #6 cooling tank before proceeding into the outfall. The #6 cooling tank is specifically designed to discharge water into the outfall, but is not designed to handle oil products. The cause of the oil intrusion into the cooling tank is being investigated. The source has been secured and an air gap has been established between the #12 crude unit and other facility systems to prevent further discharge. Another 2700ft of boom has been added across the inlet, and no product or sheen has been identified beyond the boomed areas. The contracted Oil Spill Removal Organizations continue operations, and have collected an estimated 4,200 gallons of an oily water mixture and an unknown amount of oil solids. On scene weather conditions have been largely favorable, helping to keep the product close to the shoreline, and are projected to remain favorable into tomorrow. This morning's over flight identified a dark patch within the boomed area believed to contain recoverable product. Tomorrow's operations will investigate this area further and responded accordingly. Additionally, response teams will conduct Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT) to identify and prioritize remaining areas requiring response efforts. The EPA will conduct water sampling outside of the boom, and BP has arranged for an additional over flight by a non-Coast Guard asset. Pictures from this morning's over flight are attached. Case Pends.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ninth District Command Center

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 3:02 PM

To: D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Pol-Haz-Merch Vsl; D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Senior Staff

Subject: 251901Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Update# 1)

UPDATE# 1: MSU Chicago Pollution Responders and a public affairs representative were on scene at the BP Whiting Refinery Incident Command Post this morning to monitor ongoing recovery efforts with EPA and the Indiana Dept of Environmental Management (IDEM). MSU Chicago reported that an unconfirmed estimate of approximately two barrels (120 gallons) were released from the refinery, which is currently being recovered by three on-scene Oil Spill Removal Organizations (Veiola, Heritage, MSRC). The six vacuum trucks on scene are assisting with the shoreline product clean-up/recovery and taking product out of the #6 oily water separator, believed to be the original source of product release. An additional 2,700' of boom was deployed across the refinery's inlet as a precautionary response measure. A MH-65 from Air Station Traverse City completed its over-flight this morning with a representative from MSU Chicago and reported only seeing product where the OSROs were cleaning the shoreline. Oil recovery efforts were directly next to the refinery and no significant quantity of product was reported on the open water. Quantity recovered is unknown at this time and will be determined after the vacuum trucks have

been emptied. Imagery was taken by MSU Chicago last night and is attached. Case pends.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ninth District Command Center

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 3:03 AM

To: D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Pol-Haz-Merch Vsl; D09-DG-District-D9 Notification Senior Staff

Subject: 250702Z MAR 14: MER - Sector Lake Michigan - Oil Spill - Whiting, IN (Initial)

INCIDENT TYPE: INITIAL - MER

DATE/TIME INCIDENT: 242238Z MAR 14

FACILITY NAMES: BP Whiting Refinery

IC: Sector Lake Michigan

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: Whiting, IN

MISLE CASE: 675336

SITUATION: Sector Lake Michigan received a NRC report (1077610) indicating there was an unknown sheen discharging from the outfall adjacent to the BP Whiting Refinery facility in Whiting, IN.

ACTION: Sector Lake Michigan reported MSU Chicago and EPA personnel responded and found an area of approximately 5000 square feet covered with crude oil. The facility established a command post and deployed approximately 1000 feet of boom along with six vacuum trucks conducting response operations. Air monitoring has been set up and a skim barge has been coordinated to assist with the response with an ETA of 0530 this morning (25 Mar 14). The facility identified crude oil in their number 6 separator and have secured it. It no longer appears there is oil discharging from the outfall. The facility is confident the separator is the source of the discharge, but are currently removing the remaining oil (approximately 200 gallons) in an effort to confirm the separator is the source of the discharge. Case pends.

FUTURE PLANS: MSU Chicago will have personnel on scene at first light to further assess the situation. Air Station Traverse City will be conducting an over flight, and will coordinate having response personnel from MSU on board for the flight.